

"Well, the people must learn that there is to be no hobnobbing with foreign devils," said the fellow, and a moment later poor Huan Li's head was rolling in the filth in the gutter.

Several of those who saw and heard this were not ill affected toward the Applebys. Bernard and his wife had visited the sick and fed the hungry.

When the Boxer had turned his back and was on his way to consult with his companions two or three good souls crept cautiously round by another way to warn the missionary of his danger.

Appleby was in a fix. This was Tuesday. There would be no steamer until Thursday. Even if there were he would not probably be allowed to board it. What was to be done?

Shen came running in excitedly. "Boxer man coming!" he exclaimed. "Killed Miss Dulcie, killed all! Come away quick! Shen show way! Comee, missey! No stop, not one minute!"

Shen quickly explained that he knew of a path through the woods to Tsoote, a village on the river ten miles nearer Hankow. Here he had an uncle, Shen Li, a boatman and fisherman, who would take the party down the river to Hankow.

Appleby snatched up food and a bottle of water and a blanket or two, and the party made for the nearest point at which the open country could be reached. "Go quickly," they cried; "the Boxers run fast!"

"These people will give us away," muttered Bernard as he ran, having Dulcie on his shoulder and his wife panting at his side. "There'll be no secret to the way we have taken!"

But fortunately the Boxers delayed their attack for nearly half an hour, employing that period doubtless in screwing up their courage or their ferocity to the necessary point. But the ground was soft here and there, and it would not be difficult to follow by tracking. This fact gave Bernard anxiety and lent him wings and breath and his wife also.

Suddenly came the fatal sounds of pursuit—shots and occasionally a shot fired by way of intimidation. The pursuers were a mile behind, but probably traveling much faster than the English party. Then Shen Ho spoke:

"Me go back, tell Boxer man you gone right to Wooben, you go left to Tsoote; no wait for Shen Ho; me find you mission house, Hankow; good-bye, master, missis; good-bye lovee Miss Dulcie!" Shen Ho suddenly went down upon his little nose and kissed Dulcie's tiny foot; then, before he could be questioned or prevented, he dashed backward in the way they had come.

In a few minutes he met the pursuers. The Boxer leader, hot with the chase, looked by this time, as did each of his followers, an incarnate fiend of savagery. They ran sweating and swearing, brandishing pitchforks and swords.

"Have you seen the foreign devils?" shouted the leader. "Speak quickly or the vultures shall stink over your carcass tonight!"

"Come; you shall show us which way they went, and if I find that you have lied!"

"Come, then," said Shen Ho firmly. "They were running toward Wooben, I tell you, where there are three other foreign houses who will protect them."

Shen Ho led his men three miles out of their way before the savage brutes made up their minds he had deceived them and thrust their swords through his faithful heart and left him. But the time thus gained sufficed for Appleby to bring his wife and Dulcie in safety to Tsoote and to engage a boat hence down river to Hankow.

Appleby has declared many times that if ever he returns to his mission house at Fuchow he will adopt "that little brick Shen Ho" for his smartness on the evening of their escape.

He does not know and probably he never will how big a thing the lad did for him and his that day.

**Animals' Eyes Act Independently.**

The eyes of an animal can only work together when they can be brought to bear upon an object at the same time, so that as a rule the eyes of a fish must work more or less independently. This is sometimes also the case when the eyes can co-operate, as any one who watches a pincet or other flat fish in an aquarium will soon discover.

This is true, too, of the curious bulging optics of a chameleon, which roll round 'swivelwise in a somewhat aimless manner. When they do converge it is bad for the insect upon which they fix themselves.

Many animals possess more than three eyes, which do not all act together. A leech, for example, has ten eyes on the top of its head, which do not work in concert, and a kind of marine worm has two eyes on the head and a row down each side of the body. Some lizards have an extra eye on the top of the head, which does not act with the other two. A bee or wasp has two large compound eyes, which possibly help each other and are used for near vision, and also three little simple eyes on the top of the head, which are employed for seeing things a long way off.

**Invisible Support.**

Magistrate—What's the charge against this man, officer?

Officer—No visible means of support.

Magistrate—It's up to you, prisoner. What have you to say in answer to the charge?

Prisoner—I guess it's correct, your honor. My wife isn't visible at the present writing.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

**The Dangers of Travel.**

Grouchy Bachelor—I heartily disapprove of taking children on railway journeys and to large hotels.

Doting Mother—So do I. One meets so many rude people and sees so much selfishness at those places that one is always glad the little darlings aren't there to pick up bad habits.—Baltimore American.

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February 17, 1903.

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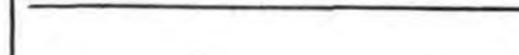
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